

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention is directed to a hearing aid apparatus which can function in a hearing aid state and a communications state, by automatically switching between the hearing aid state and the communications state.

- 5 Exemplary embodiments combine the functions of headset operation and hearing aid operation into an apparatus which can connect with communication devices and which can automatically reconfigure itself to function as a hearing aid for addressing a hearing impairment of the user. Exemplary embodiments can be configured small and comfortable to permit wear over extended periods
- 10 of time.

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